

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Duane Ankney, on January 10, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 1, 1/4/2017; SB 7, 1/4/2017

00:01:00 Chair Ankney

HEARING ON SB 1

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:06 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 1, Generally revise net metering laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:01 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy
00:15:17 Greg Dorrington, Montana Dakota Utilities
00:17:27 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperative Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:19:16 Orion Thornton, On Site Energy, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)
00:24:18 Dave Ryan, independent engineer
00:28:15 Jeff Fox, Montana policy manager, Renewable Northwest
00:31:46 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Council
00:32:58 Brian Fadie, program director, Montana Environmental Information Center
00:33:50 Katy Westhoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group

Informational Testimony:

00:34:46 Will Rosquist, Public Service Commission

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:18 Sen. Barrett
00:37:21 Mr. Thornton, MREA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:38:28 Sen. Connell
00:46:57 Chair Ankney

HEARING ON SB 7

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:47:18 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 7, Generally revise net metering.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:49:32 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a01\)](#)

00:59:13 Greg Dorrington, Montana Dakota Utilities

Opponents' Testimony:

01:01:20 David Ryan, self

[EXHIBIT\(ens07a02\)](#)

01:04:31 Brian Fadie, program director, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

01:06:39 Jeff Fox, Montana policy manager, Renewable Northwest

01:09:50 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Counsel

01:10:42 Katy Westhoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group

Informational Testimony:

01:11:37 Will Rosquist, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:12:12 Sen. Malek
01:19:16 Mr. Rosquist, PSC
01:19:25 Sen. Barrett
01:23:34 Mr. Rosquist
01:24:49 Sen. Tempel
01:25:11 Mr. Rosquist
01:26:07 Sen. Kary
01:27:49 Mr. Rosquist
01:28:59 Sen. Regier
01:31:42 Mr. Fadie, MEIC
01:32:29 Sen. McNally
01:35:37 Mr. Alke, NWE
01:37:45 Sen. McNally
01:38:12 Mr. Ryan
01:41:01 Sen. Malek
01:42:21 Mr. Alke

Closing by Sponsor:

01:43:56 Sen. Connell

01:48:54 Chair Ankney

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:55 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens07aad.pdf](#))